



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/073,269	02/13/2002	Hiroki Konaka	401571	6817
23548	7590	11/15/2006		EXAMINER
LEYDIG VOIT & MAYER, LTD				KUMAR, SRILAKSHMI K
700 THIRTEENTH ST. NW				
SUITE 300			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
WASHINGTON, DC 20005-3960			2629	

DATE MAILED: 11/15/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/073,269	KONAKA ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Srilakshmi K. Kumar	2629	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 March 2006 and 30 June 2006.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____. |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____. | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____. |

DETAILED ACTION

The following office action is in response to the Amendment After Final, filed March 29, 2006 and the Applicant initiated interview on June 30, 2006. The Finality of the previous office action has been WITHDRAWN.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Oldfield et al (EP 0622729 A2).

As to independent claim 1, Oldfield et al teach a user interface designing apparatus (page 2, lines 11-12), comprising; state set editing means for adding/deleting states of a composite display part having a plurality of states (page 4, lines 1-21), wherein the composite display part is displayed to a user as part of a user interface designed by the user interface designing apparatus (page 2, lines 11-12 and page 4, lines 1-21); event handling editing means for describing event handling for a state transition in each of the states of the composite display part (page 4, lines 13-21); elementary display part storing means for storing elementary display parts designed previously (page 6, lines 47-56); and state display editing means for adding/deleting elementary display parts to be displayed in each of the states of the composite display part (page 4, lines 1-21).

As to dependent claim 2, limitations of claim 1, and further comprising, Oldfield et al teach composite display part storing means for storing said composite display parts as designed (page 6, lines 47-56), wherein said state display editing means is arranged to add/delete another composite display part designed (page 4, lines 1-21, page 6, lines 9-20).

As to dependent claim 3, limitations of claim 1, and further comprising, Oldfield et al teach wherein said state set editing means groups several states of the composite display part in a grouped state and edits, en bloc, the display parts which are commonly displayed in the grouped state (page 4, lines 1-21, page 6, lines 9-20).

As to dependent claim 4, limitations of claim 1, and further comprising, Oldfield et al teach wherein said state set editing means is arranged to group several states of the composite display part in a grouped state, and said event handling editing means edits, en bloc, the event handlings which are common in the grouped state (page 4, lines 1-21, page 6, lines 9-20).

As to dependent claim 5, limitations of claim 1, and further comprising, Oldfield et al wherein the elementary display part stored in said elementary display part storing means has properties corresponding to size, position, external appearance, and behavior, and further comprising property editing means for editing the properties of the elementary display part added to each state or group of states of the composite display part (page 6, lines 47-56).

As to dependent claim 6, limitations of claim 5, and further comprising, Oldfield et al teach composite display part property setting means adding/deleting the properties representative of behaviors of the composite display part (page 4, lines 1-20 and page 6, lines 9-20), wherein said property editing means edits the properties of the composite display part added to each state or group of states of said composite display part (page 6, lines 9-20).

As to dependent claim 7, limitations of claim 5, and further comprising, Oldfield et al teach wherein said property editing means describes the properties of the elementary display part or, alternatively (page 7, lines 30-47), the composite display part by referencing values of the properties of another elementary display part or, alternatively, the properties of another composite display part (page 4, lines 1-21).

As to dependent claim 8, limitations of claim 5, and further comprising, Oldfield et al teach wherein said state display editing means displays, graphically, disposition of the elementary display part (page 4, lines 1-21) or, alternatively, the composite display part in each state or group of states of the composite display part while editing, graphically, properties and information concerning layout, such as size or dimension or inter-part relation, through direct manipulation with an input device (page 6, lines 47-56).

As to dependent claim 9, limitations of claim 5, and further comprising, Oldfield et al teach wherein said state display editing means displays, graphically, disposition of the elementary display part (page 4, lines 1-21), or alternatively, the composite display part in each state or group of states of the composite display part while editing, graphically, properties and information concerning layout, inclusive of size or inter-part relation through direct manipulation with an input device, or alternatively, by activating directly a corresponding one of said property editing means (page 6, lines 47-56).

As to dependent claim 10, limitations of claim 2, and further comprising, Oldfield et al teach simulation means for simulating behavior of the composite display part stored in said composite display part storing means in conformance with manipulation input activated through an input device (page 7, lines 9-50).

Art Unit: 2629

As to dependent claim 11, limitations of claim 10, and further comprising, Oldfield et al teach visual display part storing means for storing virtual display parts having functions realized virtually by said simulation means (page 4, lines 1-21).

As to dependent claim 12, limitations of claim 10, and further comprising, Oldfield et al teach wherein said event handling editing means sets a virtual event and edits an event handling for the event (page 4, lines 1-21), and said simulation means issues the event, virtually, through an input/output device to simulate the processing for the virtual event issued, with a relevant composite display part (page 7, lines 9-50).

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments, see arguments, filed March 29, 2006, with respect to the rejection(s) of claim(s) 1-12 under 35 USC 103 have been fully considered and are persuasive. Therefore, the rejection has been withdrawn. However, upon further consideration, a new ground(s) of rejection is made in view of Oldfield et al (EP 0622729 A2).

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Srilakshmi K. Kumar whose telephone number is 571 272 7769. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00 am to 5:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sumati Lefkowitz can be reached on 571 272 3638. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Srilakshmi K. Kumar
Examiner
Art Unit 2629

SKK
September 30, 2006



SUMATI LEFKOWITZ
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER